

Application No.: 10/658,962
Attorney Docket No.: 49321-102
First Applicant's Name: Mendy S. Maccabee
Application Filing Date: September 8, 2003
Office Action Dated: April 2, 2008
Date of Response: August 27, 2008
Examiner: Jennifer M. Kim

IN THE CLAIMS:

Applicants, pursuant 37 C.F.R. § 1.121, submit the following amendments to the claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for treating a damaged ciliated epithelial structure, comprising topical administration of a ~~non-aerosol~~, depot formulation of a therapeutically effective amount of composition comprising vitamin A to a damaged ciliated epithelial structure, wherein treating of the damaged ciliated epithelial structure is achieved.

Claim 2 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the ciliated epithelial structure is selected from the group consisting of: nasal or paranasal sinus mucosa; tracheal epithelium; middle-ear epithelium, including respiratory epithelium, ciliated epithelium and cuboidal epithelium; and combinations thereof.

Claim 3 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the ciliated epithelial structure comprises ciliated paranasal sinus mucosa.

Claim 4 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein damage comprises damage selected from the group consisting of acute or chronic sinus disease, infection, mechanical, surgical intervention, and combinations thereof.

Claim 5 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein damage is that caused by surgical intervention.

Claim 6 (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein topical administration comprises administration by a medium selected from the group consisting of aqueous or non-aqueous gels, solutions, ointments, salves, lotions, unguents, coatings, impregnations of packing material or sponge material or strip gauze, and combinations thereof.

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Claim 7 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein treating comprises affecting an indicator selected from the group consisting of: increase, relative to untreated, in ciliated paranasal sinus mucosa; promotion, relative to untreated, of ciliated epithelial healing or regeneration; reduction, relative to untreated, of serous gland loss; reduction, relative to untreated, of laminar fibrosis, including of the lamina propria; effect, relative to untreated on mucociliary density change, including causing a greater density of regenerated cilia; effect, relative to normal, on bone morphometry, including sinus bone morphometry.

Claim 8 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein vitamin A is administered at a concentration range selected from the group consisting of: about 0.001% to about 0.25% (w/w); about 0.005% to about 0.025% (w/w); about 0.01% to about 0.025% (w/w), and about 0.001% to about 0.05%.

Claims 9-10 (cancelled)

Claim 11 (currently amended): A method for treating a damaged ciliated epithelial structure, comprising topical administration of a ~~non-aerosol~~, depot formulation of a therapeutically effective amount of a composition comprising vitamin A (including retinoic acid) to a damaged ciliated epithelial structure, wherein the ciliated epithelial structure is selected from the group consisting of nasal or paranasal sinus mucosa, tracheal epithelium, middle-ear epithelium, and combinations thereof, and wherein treating of the damaged ciliated epithelial structure achieved.

Claim 12 (currently amended): The method of claim 11, wherein topical administration comprises administration by a medium selected from the group consisting of aqueous or non-aqueous gels, solutions, ointments, salves, lotions, unguents, ~~sprays, aerosolized or nebulized particles~~, coatings, impregnations of packing material or sponge material or strip gauze, and combinations thereof.

Claims 13-20 (cancelled)

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Claim 21 (original): The method of any one of claims 1 or 11, wherein vitamin A is retinoic acid.

Claims 22-23 (cancelled)